

HISTORY

Of the Two Unfortunate; tho' **NOT** **LOVERS**,

Hero and Leander :

GIVING

An Account of all that happen'd from the Beginning
of their Loves, till both of them ended their Lives in the Sea
for each other.

TOGETHER

With their various Adventures, and the renowned Atchievements
of *Leander*, in his many glorious Victories and Successes, till he was forbid
Access to fair *Hero*, by her cruel Father, upon his killing his Rival in a Com-
bat. Also how (she being imprison'd in a Tower) he swam over the Sea to
visit her, and in a monstrous Storm was drowned; for Sorrow of which, she
leaped into the Waves and drowned herself.



NEWCASTLE, Printed and Sold by JOHN WHITE,

TO THE
READER.

THE famous Story of the two Lovers, and the unfortunate Deaths of Hero and Leander, have been so much the Subject of Poetry, and other learned Authors, that I think there are but few People that have not heard less or more of it; tho' indeed the Particulars of the Beginning and End of their Loves, have to many been left in the Dark, as being written in Foreign Languages, who have celebrated their Memories, as the most constant Lovers that ever were. Wherefore, that our English Nation may not be left in Ignorance, I have, tho' late, drawn it into a small Compass, very much to the Purpose, containing much Variety and Delight; so that it may be accounted the Perfection of Hero, dressed in a Method that cannot but please, wherein Passions of Love are expressed to the Height, and the Dangers they meet and struggle with: And tho' sometimes unfortunate, it never misses true Commiseration, and moves a generous Passion in the Heart. Wherefore, not doubting but it will be so in those that shall, as well as those that have it, I commend it to your Perusal, as the chiefest of my Wishes, and remain,

Your very humble Servant to command,

J. S.

The Famous and Renowned
HISTORY

Of the Two Unfortunate, tho' Noble, **LOVERS,**
HERO and LEANDER, &c.

CHAP. I.

How Leander, returning in Triumph from his Eastern Victories, fell in Love with the beautiful Hero, and she in Love with him, and of the strange Vision of the Goddess Venus appearing to Hero, and what she represented, &c.



WHEN Greece flourished in Riches and Renown, becoming by Virtue and valorous Atchievements, the Glory of the whole World, having subdued to it self, not only the *Per-
sian* Empire, but almost all *India*, and indeed the most Part of *Asia*; then it was that the fam'd *Leander*, after many warlike Exploits, and bringing into Subjection divers Countries, as General of the *Grecian* Forces, coming back with his victorious Army, adorned with Lawrels and Triumphs, had his Praises sung every where. Whilst the crowding Spectators flowed from all Parts to behold him as he passed in his triumphant Chariot, and amongst the rest of the *Asian* Beauties, the fairest of her Sex, and even the very Mirror of Beauty, *Hero*, Daughter to a Prince who had a stately Castle called *Sestus*, situate upon the Banks of the *Hellespont*, or narrow Sea, of about two Miles over, that parts *Europe* from *Asia*, she that Day was adorned in the richest Attire that Gold, Silks or Jewels, could set out to the highest Illustration, glittering like the Morning-Star, or a Goddess in a radiant Cloud. She was in a Chariot drawn by Four white Horses, in Silver Trappings, and shadowing Plumes of Feathers of various Colours, attended by a Train of Servants, dressed in the richest Garments that could be found; and with her, as her Companions, were divers beautiful Virgins, so that she appeared like *Diana* surrounded with her Nymphs, yet outshining them as

As the Sun does the glittering Stars. This Object soon made *Leander* fix his Eyes upon it with Admiration, and tho' he devoted himself to the God of War, and gave Nations Laws, yet now the God of Love put in, to gain a Victory, over him who had been esteem'd unconquerable, the Queen of Love seemed to guide his Thoughts, and take up his Cogitations; he wished he might lay his Lawrels and Trophies at this fair Lady's Feet, and found an inward Fire kindled, that made him love this fair Stranger before he knew what she was, or what Quality, yet could guess by all that appeared, she was no less than noble; when his triumphant Chariot had passed her, he could not but turn his Eyes back to behold her; and like the love-sick Son to his fair and beloved *Lancothe*, was loath to go out of her Sight, he thought once or twice to order his Attendants to enquire who she was, but then other Thoughts countermanded them, when he considered that his Fame and Glory would be eclipsed, if just returning from the Wars of *Mars* he should be suspected to encline to the soft Tents of *Venus*; so that without any enquiring, coming to the Sea-shore, he embarked his victorious Army on the Ships that lay ready to transport him into *Greece*; and immediately the Sails being fill'd with a prosperous Gale, whilst *Neptune* and his *Tritons* danced before him, he reached the joyful Shore, which was filled with People from all Parts, who came with Musick and Songs, proclaiming loudly, with Shouts of Joy, his Welcome, and thronged after him to his Castle or Palace of *Abidos*, where his Father and Mother with open Arms received him, and all the States of *Greece* came to congratulate his Success, proclaiming aloud his Victories, and held ten Days Festival in their capital Cities, in Honour of his many brave Exploits and Atchievements over so many several Nations.

Leander, during the general Rejoycing, was thoughtful in disposing his Army, and settling his Affairs, which being done, he thought to betake himself to Repose after the tedious Toils of War, but the beautiful *Hero*, whose Idea or Form continually seemed to be in his Sight, opposed it; he thought she was always in his Sight, for sleeping or waking, his Fancy, and all his Dreams, represented her unto him all lovely and charming, so that he could no longer stifle his Flame, but he signally shewed by the Alteration of his Countenance, that something inwardly disturbed him; his Parents and Friends wondered at so sudden a Change, and not knowing the Cause, urged him to discover it, but he, being very prudent, put them off with Fictions.

Whilst *Leander* was at this Pass, the fair *Hero* no less surprized with the Sight of him, represented to herself all that was great and worthy to be admired in Mankind, in him, so that their Flames and Passions were equal, tho' either was ignorant of it, she was so taken up with the Thoughts of him, that she abated much of her natural Rest, and was pleased with

nothing more than to hear the great Actions he had done, the Relation of which was Musick to her Ears, and Joy to her Heart, and often she would ask *Amphilia* her Nurse who had brought her up, and in whom she alone confided, what she had heard of the famous *Grecian* Captain since he had passed the Sea? This Woman being of a ready and quick Understanding, found by the young Lady's often changing Colour, and sometimes letting a Sigh escape when she spoke of *Leander*, that she had more than an ordinary Concern for him, resolving to dive more deeply into her Thoughts, she urged her many Times to know, why she so earnestly enquired after the Fame and Welfare of his Person above all others? But she answered either with Silence, or that she did no more in it than every Body did of so brave a Man; but one Night *Amphilia* being to watch in the Chamber of fair *Hero*, whose inward Fire had, by burning too fierce, somewhat distempered her Health, she heard her in her Slumber cry out, *Oh! how cruel is the God of Love to an innocent Virgin, to give her so deep a Wound without Hope of Cure?* She scarce had said this, when she fancied in her Dream, as she afterward declared, she beheld *Leander* standing by her in a most lovely and charming Shape, and the Goddess *Venus* as it were presenting her with these Words:

*Behold, fair Maid, what you desire;
His Breast I've fill'd with equal Fire:
Both shall enjoy what either craves,
Till Love is quench'd in Neptune's Waves.*

Having thus said, *Leander* seem'd to embrace her, and she him very tenderly, with ardent Affection, when a great Sea of Water seem'd to flow into the Place on a Sudden, and parted them; at which she starting, between sleep and wake, cried, as in a Fright, *O my Leander! my Love, how, or where have I lost you?* And so awoke, with rose Blushes on her Cheeks and Tears in her Eyes, and being told of this by *Amphilia*, she could no longer deny her Love, whereupon she promised her best Assistance, which she faithfully performed, as will hereafter appear.

C H A P. II.

How Leander pass'd the Sea to prosecute his Love with Hero, and by what Means he deliver'd her and her Father from Death, and slew their Enemies that had beset them in a Wood, and acted many strange Wonders.

LOVE having gained thus a double Conquest, and both the Lover ignorant of each others Passion, *Leander* grew impatient, casting

Ways in his Mind how he might come to the Speech, or at least the Sight of his fair *Hero*, whose Image had made so deep an Impression in his Heart; and after some wavering of Mind, resolved to pass over into *Asia* as a private Person, to wait there a while for a favourable Opportunity of seeing his beloved Mistress; he could see her Castle from the Shore of *Europe*, to which he had often walked for that Purpose, and would often cry out, *O happy Walls! who contains so inestimable a Beauty, even the Glory of her Sex, and matchless Perfection of Woman-kind.* Wishing himself the Happiness the senseless Marble unthinkingly contain'd by circling her in its Circumference, and securing her when she took her soft Slumbers and Repose; but long he debated not before he put his Resolves in Practice, and going to a private Harbour between two Rocks somewhat distant from *Abidas*, without the Knowledge of his Relations, and finding a small Bark there, he agreed with the Master to transport him to the further Shore, which he did with a favourable Gale, and landed him by the Side of a Forrest, some Distance from *Sestus*, the Castle of his beloved *Hero*, and having dismissed the Master of the Bark, with a Reward suitable to his Labour, he sat him down under a spreading Shade, to consider the best Methods to be taken, without giving Offence.

Long he had not stay'd there e'er, at a great Distance, he heard the Cry of Hounds, and the Shouts of Huntsmen, which by Degrees grew nearer, yet his Thoughts wholly taken up with Love, was little affected with that Pastime, and therefore to avoid it he was turning another Way, to some little Houses that stood at the Bottom of a Hill in a Valley, when, after some Silence, he heard grievous Outcries as of People in Distress, and immediately a Man all bloody and wounded came running out of the Forrest, whereupon mounting his Horse he had brought with him, he came up to the miserable Person, and demanded who had misused him; to whom, with a faint Voice, he replied, *Certain Pyrates lying in Ambush in the Forrest, had set upon Prince Armelious and his Train, and had killed many of them, yet those that remained valiantly defended their Prince; therefore, for Goodness Sake, Sir, (said he to Leander) if you are generous, hasten to his Assistance e'er it is too late.*

Leander, who had always a noble Soul, and took great Delight to relieve the Distressed, need not to be incited to such an Enterprize, set Spurs to his Horse, being directed to the Place by the Cries that continued, and found the Prince, most of whose Men were slain, valiantly defending himself, his Back being to a Tree, against Nine or Ten of these, he easily perceived who the Oppressors were, and who they oppressed, and flying in amongst them like a Tempest, beat all down before him, cutting off the Heads of some, and the Arms of others as they were about to strike, making their Swords drop useless from their Hands; this put new Courage

Two unfortunate Lovers, Hero and Leander.

into *Armeliours* and his wounded Men, who yet survived their Fellows, so that lustily laying about them, all but Three of these Pyrates were slain, who, being likewise wounded, escaped among the Trees: *Armeliours* had scarce Time to thank the generous *Leander*, when hearing the Cries of his Daughter, whom others of this Rout were carrying away Prisoner, he besought him on his Knees to bend his Course thitherward, and help to rescue her: *Leander* now all covered with the Blood of his Enemies, turning his Horse to the Path, followed the Cry, and soon overtook them; but oh! what Amazement and Wonder seiz'd him, when he saw and knew this Lady, tho' in Tears and disorder'd, and torn Hair and Garments, to be the beautiful *Hero*, he lifted up his Hands to Heaven for Direction to this Forest, at a Time when the fairest of Creatures, and Joy of his Life was in such Danger, and with a great Cry, incited by Love and Revenge, fell upon them like a Thunder-bolt breaking from a Cloud, dying afresh his Sword not dried from the former Blood, at which the trembling Lady almost died away to see such fatal Strokes, which at every Turn brought Death to one or other of 'em, so that despairing to carry off their precious Prize, when defended by one whom they supposed to be much more than Man, those that could, fled, and those that could not, left their Lives.

By this Time *Armeliours* and his Company were come up to lend what Assistance they could, and seeing fair *Hero* rescued, they would have fallen at the Feet of their Deliverer, but he generously with-held them from doing it, alledging that he had done nothing but what all good and just Men ought to hazard in such Cases to rescue the Oppressed, and punish the Oppressor; by this Time the Alarm being taken, a great Crowd of People came flocking from the neighbouring Parts, with such Weapons that came first to their Hands, and hearing what Wonders this Stranger had done, and that it was to his Valour alone they owed the Safety of their Prince and his fair Daughter, they saluted him with Shouts of Joy; but his Thoughts were so taken up with Love, that he little regarded their Applauses, for his Mind was perplexed for *Hero*, who by the Fright, and seeing so much Blood shed, was fallen into a Swoon, but reviving at length, she was put into a Chariot that stood by the Forest Side, and conveyed to the Castle of *Seslus*, *Leander* being in this Encounter unknown to her, by Reason his Face was all over covered with the Blood of his Enemies: *Armeliours* entreated him to go with them to the Castle, to which he seemingly consented, but it growing dark, he took an Opportunity in the Crowd to withdraw himself, till he might better consider to manage his Love Affairs, and so went that Night to a neighbouring Village, where he refreshed himself; and presenting the Master of the House with some Jewels, desired him not to let any one know he was there, if Enquiry was made, which he promised and performed.

C H A P. III.

How Leander jested before the Princess, and won a rich Diadem, which he presented to Hero, with a Letter in it, manifesting his Love, and overthrew a great Number of Men that lay in Ambush to take his Life, &c.

HERO being pretty well come to her self, made a strict Enquiry after her Deliverer, and when she was told he had secretly withdrawn himself, her Eyes could not refrain from Tears, that she had not a convenient Opportunity to thank him for her Deliverance; yet more, she could not but wonder who this gallant Stranger should be, and sent to divers Places to enquire after him, sometimes she thought it could be none but the fam'd *Leander*; but those Thoughts were again dash'd with the Consideration that he had passed over to *Europe*, and taken up there with the Welcome of his Triumphs; during these Cogitations, and still fixing his Idea in her Mind, great Shew of Joy was used in the Castle for the happy Deliverance; and at the End of them a solemn Tilt and Turnament was ordered, wherein he that did best, was to have a golden Coronet set with Diamonds, and other precious Jewels, which glorious Sport of Martial Prowess was proclaim'd by the Heraulds, and it soon reached *Leander's* Ear, whereupon, not to be behind-hand, he left his Lodging, and rode to *Persopolis*, a famous City near at hand, and there bought him Change of Armour, having in his Shield, a flaming Heart, on which the Sun darted some Rays thro' Clouds, with this Inscription, *She for whom I suffer is ignorant of my Love.*

Leander thus accoutred, took his Opportunity to come to the List, just as the Trumpets were sounding to Action, and found divers Champions in a Readiness, well mounted, who, upon the Signal, run two and two together, and broke their Lances with divers Success, many being laid in the Dust; but above all, the Prince of *Persopolis*, who was enamoured of the fair *Hero*, and to whom her Father designed to wed her, unhorsed all that came near him; and tho' he was a Man of an ill Temper, and little beloved of any, glorying in his Atchievements, in a braving Manner came and demanded the Prize, as his Due, unless any other Knight would dare to attempt any Thing further against him. *Leander*, who had all this While stood still, that he might be crowned with the greater Victory, induced by those he had foiled, and putting Spurs to his Horse, entred the List, and demanded the Combat against him; they no sooner encountered, but the Prince was overthrown, together with his Horse, as if he had been driven down, or Thunder-struck with a mighty Tempest, which

Disgrace some of his Followers attempting to retrieve, run the same Risk, so that in the End, none daring to appear against him, the Prize was declared his; which he had no sooner received, but he laid it at the Feet of his most lovely *Hero*, telling her, *That, above all the World, she alone was worthy of so fair a Diadem*: She most modestly refused it, and said, *It was the Prize of his Valour*. But he urging his Forces, inspired by her Beauty, had made him accomplish what otherwise he was not capable of doing; he at last urged so long, that she declared she would keep it for his Sake. Many admired at this, some with Wonder, and others not without Jealousie, all admiring what this might mean. Prince *Armeli* was well pleased with it, as imagining this Stranger could be no other than his gallant Deliverer; and the Jufts being ended, he caused a Lord near him to go and invite him into the Hall, where a sumptuous Entertainment was prepared; but *Leander*, who had his Face all the While covered, and not yet willing to disclose Himself, returned the Prince his humble Thanks in the most obliging Expressions imaginable, and desired to be excused, saying, *He had taken his Repast already, and obliged himself, by Promise, to return as soon as the Sports were over*.

This Speech satisfied the Prince, in that he ever held, that a Man of Honour is tied to his Word: But the Prince of *Persopolis* inwardly grieving that this Stranger should carry away the Prize and Glory of the Day, and being also jealous by the Action he beheld, that he might prove a Rival in his Love, he being passionately enamour'd with the fair *Hero*, and had sought many Occasions to make his Love known to her, which she minded not, or rather not regarded, he being the proudest and most ambitious of all Men, it turned him to a mortal Hatred of *Leander*, and watching his Departure, he sent Twelve of his Followers after him to set upon him, and when they had murder'd him, to bury him privately that it might not be known.

These Men knowing the Ways of the Country, crossing the nearer Ways, got before him, and planted themselves closely in a Wood he was to pass, out of which Ambush they all on a sudden rush'd upon him with their drawn Swords, and gave him a furious Assault; but he who was never used to fear, was not at all daunted, recoiling his Horse a little to get out of the Enclosure, drew his trusty Sword, that had never fail'd him, and flourishing it in their Eyes like a dreadful Comet that threatned Death and Destruction, he set upon them with such Fury, that he felled them, as if a Whirl-wind had thrown down a Row of stately Cedars from some Mountain's Top, so that hewing off Arms and Legs, and sometimes Heads, in spite of their attempting to fly, he sent Eleven of them to keep Company with the Dead, while he that remained, tho' much wounded, fell on his Knees and begged his Life, which he generously gave him, upon his Submission and Confession, at which *Leander* could not but wonder how any Nobleman could be guilty

such Baseness; and then commanding him to rise, *Go, wretched Man,* (said he) *and tell thy Master, that Treachery never prospers, and that I wear a Sword that may one Day let him see the Difference between Manhood and such inglorious Acts as these.*

The trembling Man, glad his Life was given him, having by *Leander's* Order dragged his slain Companions into the Wood, with much Thankfulness took his Leave; and relating the fatal Miscarriage, and what *Leander* had given him in Charge, put the Prince of *Persopolis* into an extraordinary Rage, so that he stormed, and cursed the Skies and his own Misfortunes; in which Fret we will leave him, and return to *Hero*.



CHAP. IV.

How when the fair Hero read Leander's Letter, she was transported with Joy, and sent Amorissa her Nurse in Search of him, with a Letter she wrote to him. How he killed a cruel Beast, and saved the Woman that came in search after him, and his amorous Discourse of Hero, &c.

YOU have heard how *Hero* had received the Present of *Leander*, which she curiously surveying, perceived in the curious Needle-work that adorned the Cap of it, a little Roll of Paper thrust in, which she eagerly, but not without Blushing, took out and read in it these Words,

Fairest of Creatures, it is not without Cause, that all that cast their Eyes on you, become Lovers and Admirers of your noble Perfections. Pardon me then, if among the rest, I have presumed to gaze on so bright an Object, which has not only dazzled my Eyes, but penetrated my Heart, and inflamed it with a Desire to serve you: My Life and Fortunes, Madam, I lay at your Feet, and by my Obedience, if permitted by you, and to be ranked among the Number of your Adorers, hope to gain some little Spark of your condescending Goodness to pity me, and give me at least your good Esteem, when you come to know who your faithful and constant Servant is, who can no longer call himself his own, but must beg Leave to subscribe himself your entirely Devoted, Leander.

The Princess reading this Letter, paused and blushed; but when coming lower, and having cast her Eyes on the Name of *Leander*, Oh Heavens! how was she transported, her Eyes sparkled with Joy, she cried out as in an Extasie, *Oh! you Powers above, how do you overload me with Happiness? Was it then the brave Leander that I beheld with such Wonder, who made me the Present, and was, no doubt, my Deliverer, for who but such a Prince could be capable of such glorious Actions?*

Two unfortunate Lovers, Hero and Leander.

As she was thus transported *Amorissa* came in, and finding her in such Disorder, could not but be very inquisitive into the Cause, and seeing her hold a Paper still in her Hand, to which the Name of *Leander* was affixed, she soon understood the Meaning, and joyned in the Joy with her young Mistress, who embracing her in her Arms, cried out, *Oh! Amorissa, now the gracious Constellations of Light shower happy Influences on my Fortune, the brave Leander, on whom my Heart is so entirely fixed, sues to me for Love, as by the Tenor of this Letter appears.* *Amorissa* was overjoyed that the troublesome Part she was to undertake in going to *Leander* on her Mistress's Behalf, and finding a Way out to make that Love known, which she saw so visibly torment her, and would no doubt have brought her to her Grave, was now so generously prevented, yet being of a prompt Wit, she began to doubt whether this might be the true *Leander*, or some other that might use so gallant a Name, to introduce his Affection: *For had it been he, (said she to Hero, who changed Colour, and looked pale at this Suspicion) why did he so suddenly withdraw himself? He need not have feared Acceptance in your Father's Court, his Glory and Renown would have made all proud of the Honour of his Company: Yet again, (said she, recollecting her self) it may be he, since, as I remember, when he passed by in his Triumphant Chariot, his Eyes looked languishing when he fixed them on your Face, and seemed to say, that Love from your fair Eyes had sent his Darts to conquer him who had subdued whole Nations.*

Between these Hopes and Fears, *Hero* knew not what to say or think, however it was agreed between them, that *Amorissa* should go in search of the renowned *Leander*, and know if it was the true *Leander* or not, before any other Presents or Tenders of Love should be received from him, for to him alone she vowed her Virginity, with all her Love and chaste Affections, and if she found it to be him, to deliver an Answer to this Letter, which she wrote in these Words:

Sir, though you are a Stranger, with whom I never had any Conversation, yet the Fame of Leander's Virtues and renowned Deeds, which have taken up the Discourse of all the World, cannot, you may well imagine, but have reached the Ears of Hero, and created in her an Esteem worthy of so deserving a Person; but how you could conceive so great a Passion as you expressed in your Letter, upon so slight a View, I cannot hastily believe, since the greatest Queen on Earth would be proud of Leander's Courtship, and set a Diadem on his Head for Love: I think, if I mistake not, I owe my Life, at least my Liberty, or my Honour, which is dearer to me than both, to your Valour; and therefore in Gratitude return you my Thanks, and cannot but declare, that it is just when I am an Enemy to Leander, that I be so to my-self. The rest I leave to the Bearer, in whom you may entirely repose any Confidence, and so take Leave to subscribe my self,

Yours in Friendship and good Wishes, *HERO*
Amorissa

Amoriffa delayed not to go in this Search, and having seen which Way this Cavalier went, she mounted upon a white Steed, and riding to be as little observed as might be, happened to light on the Way he went, and enquired of divers Persons, got some Information, that such a like Person as she described, had entred the Wood before her about three Hours since: This gladed *Amoriffa*, who scowred after as nimble as the Wind; but coming between the broad spreading Trees that made a thick Shade, and a Kind of Gloom at Noon-day, she began to be fearful, she being alone, that some Thieves or wild Beasts might assault her; however her Fears were not so great, but she resolved to go on, and did so, till she came to the Place the Fight had been, where seeing the Grass and Leaves dyed with Blood, she started in a Fright, and almost fell from her Horse, and being a little recovered, was desirous to turn him, but he Head-strong leaping forward, carried her away by Force. For she had not rid in this Speed, till she heard a Monster terribly roaring in the Wood, who having scented the Blood of the Slain, was making towards them, to satiate his hungry Maw; but upon hearing the Noise of her Horse's Track, she had scarce passed the Place where he was, but he came running to the Edge of the Wood, and putting out his dreadful Head through the Bushes, which Affrightment made her double her Speed, yet after her he came full cry, which (happy for her) unusual Sound piercing the Ears of *Leander* as he sat under a spreading Beech, to which he had tyed his Horse, to refresh himself after so much Toil, at a small Spring which there bubbled up, to wash off the Blood and Dust from his Face and Armour, which had besmeared him in the Combat, whereat, clapping on his Helmet, he came into the Way with his drawn Sword, and perceiving a Woman flying, and crying for Help as she fled, before a monstrous Beast, whose Jaws were already bloody with the Prey he had already torn, which made him haste to interpose his never unsuccessful Sword between her and Death, which he scarce had Time to do, e'er the cruel Monster was come so near as to make a full Leap at her, which made her through Fear fall from her Horse in a Swoon, so that missing her, he tore and rent the Horse in a miserable Manner, before *Leander* could give him a full Stroke, which however at Length he did, with such Force, that it gave him a deep Wound in his Neck, which made him the more eager, and with great Fury came at *Leander*, rearing himself upon his hinder Paws, and stretching out his forward ones to catch him in his Grasp, whereupon, with a home-thrust followed close, coming in between them, he pierced his Breast, and so his Heart, that he fell down dead with a dismal Cry; when he had done this, he came to *Amoriffa* and saluted her, who now began again to recover her Senses, demanding what Adventure had brought her such a dangerous Way: At these Words, opening her Eyes, and fixing them upon him, she immediately knew him to be the same that had won the Price at *Sessus*, and the

Man

Man she was in Search after, whereupon she fell at his Feet, and embracing his Knees, with Tears of Joy in her Eyes, said, *Sure Heaven is this Day favourable to me, and to the fair Hero, in delivering me from Death, and as I hope, putting an End to a more tedious Search.*

Leander, when he heard the Name of *Hero*, started, and a little after recovering himself again, took *Amorissa* in his Arms, and tenderly embracing her, said, *For Heaven's Sake let me hear that heavenly Sound again; I think, (continued he) you named Hero. I did so, my Lord, (replied she) and hope you are Leander. I am so, (said he) but what is the Cause of your venturing alone in this disconsolate Way? In Search of you, (said she.) Of me, (replied Leander hastily) to what End I pray? You may read that, (said she) and you will be better informed:* Whereupon she gave him the Letter that *Hero* had writ. He no sooner saw her Name, but bending one Knee to the Earth, he kissed the Paper a hundred Times before his Words could get Utterance, and then he said, *Has the immortal Powers so great a Regard to Leander, as to inspire the Breast of the fair, beautiful and vertuous Hero? Speak, speak, I say, for thou art my good Angel, I think, that bringest me these glad Tidings.* And with that he thrust a Jewel of great Value into her Hand for bringing him the happy News. To which *Amorissa* modestly replied, That if he was really that *Leander* of *Greece*, who passing some Days since triumphant over the *Hellespont*, she had a Commission, (if *Hero* had any Power over him) as in his Letter he had expressed she had, to let him know that she had no light Esteem of him, and that he might hope to be happy in her Love.

If that may be, (said he) I am the happiest Man on Earth, it was my Fear of offending her with my Passion, that made me thus twice retire; first when I had rescued her in the Wood, and now, which cannot but grieve me, because it had almost proved fatal to you: But think you, (continued he) I may be so ever blessed to see my Hero alone, and presume to tell her of my Love without Interruption, or without offending her?

Amorissa undertook this, and gave him Encouragement that this his Enterprize should be crowned with Success, but that he carry on his Love as privately as might be, for that *Altemansor*, Prince of *Persepolis*, had declared himself a Lover of the Princess *Hero*, and by Reason of the Power he had in that Country, and the Ascendent over the Father of her Mistress, might much obstruct their Loves, if not make it prove of fatal Consequence. To all this *Leander* consented, and gave himself wholly up to be conducted by her Management, yet concealed from her the Design that *Altemansor* had upon him by Treachery, though she was inquisitive how so much Blood came to be spilt on the Road.

C H A P. V.

How Hero and Leander met overjoyed with Love, and knit the Bond that ended with their Lives, and of the mutual Agreement they made; and how Leander prepared to go to Sestus to gain her Father's Consent.

THE joyful *Leander* now resolved to go to *Sestus*, with more Willingness than he went to reap Lawrels and Triumphs, took *Amorissa* (whose Horse the Monster had killed) up behind him, and crossing a nearer Way, that she shewed him, rode through all the By-paths till they came to a little Country-lodge, about Half a Mile from the Palace, where there was a curious Garden, to which *Hero* used, in the Cool of the Evening, to resort, of this Place she had the Keys, and here they entred, and shewed him to put his Horse and Armour in a vaulted Stable under Ground, that they might not be discovered, if any Body should come unexpected with the Princess, and carried him to a curious shady Arbour, so intricately winding and turning, and shut up with Leaves and Trees, that those who remained in the remotest Part, could not be without Difficulty discerned. Here she left him, with a Promise that she would so order it, that the fair *Hero* should come thither without knowing of his being there, lest otherwise she might think it beyond the Rules of Modesty, to meet a Man that was so great a Stranger to her, though she loved him never so intirely; thus she dissembled to *Leander*, but going to her Mistress, she told her all that happened, who could not but blush she had made such a Promise in her Name, refusing for some Time to go, as judging it might be interpreted to too much Fondness; but *Amorissa* urging it as necessary in this Juncture, to prevent Discovery; and laying aside her rich Garments, put on a Disguise, and so passing through the back Garden of the Castle of *Sestus*, through a little Wicket, that was shaded by a Tuft of Trees, they got into the Field, and so to the little Lodge where *Leander* waited with Impatience the coming of his bright Angel, and employed all his Thoughts in meditating in what Manner he should accost her; but whilst they lasted, he espied *Amorissa* coming, and in her Company one, who by her Garb, he knew not what to think of, as imagining it could not be his adored Princess; but, upon a nearer Approach her Beauty, like an Angel's Brightness, shot through those seeming Clouds, and almost confounded him with Amazement, that nothing before could daunt. So near a Kin is Love to Impotency, that it disarms us of Courage, and enfeebles the strongest and most daring Resolution. She took a turn or two in the Walks and when she came near the Arbour where he was, he ventured out, and with a low Submission, falling

at her Feet, and (whilst she stood almost confounded with Blushes and Amazement) thus expressed himself:

Pardon me, divinest Creature, if I thus presume to prostrate my self before you, in Hopes that so much Goodness can pardon a Crime of a higher Nature, and especially this, seeing it is authorised by Love, whose Commands must be obeyed, and whose Flames are irresistible, O turn not away those dazzling Suns of Light, that guide me to my Happiness, but let those Orient Eyes shine upon me with Beams of Comfort, that I may live by the Brightness of their Rays, and the Smiles of my fair Hero. He would have proceeded, but *Hero* entreating him to rise, and *Amorissa* advising them to go into the Arbour, as well to keep them from the Heat, as from the prying Eyes that might be upon them; the two Lovers obeyed, being both, without any further Ceremonies, overjoyed at so happy a Meeting, though *Hero* dissembled it as well as she could, telling him, (whilst he gently squeezed her fair Hand which she permitted him to kiss) That she hoped he would not misconstrue her Actions, in being so forward in granting him Favours she had never yet granted to any Body; since, in Gratitude, she could do no less, seeing he had been her Deliverer, but to grant him Love, which he earnestly requested, she might take a longer Time to consider on it, before she absolutely fixed or settled her Affections, though she must confess his Merits required a greater Beauty, and a larger Fortune. *Leander* hereupon promised to obey her in all Things; so that she giving him very large Hopes of winning those Affections, which indeed she had intirely fixed upon him before, it was agreed, that the next Day he should make his publick Appearance at the Castle of *Sestus*; but to be very cautious how he made Love to her in Publick, or shewed the least Sign of it, till she knew how her Father stood inclin'd to favour him; for though she loved *Leander* intirely, yet she much relied upon her Obedience to her Parents, which proved very tragical, as will in the End appear.

C H A P. VI.

Leander's fatal Dream, and the Treachery of the Prince of Persopolis, to oppose his Love, Hero's Father entertains him with Joy, yet denies his Consent, in Favour of the Prince of Persopolis, and other rare Adventures.

THE best and most constant of Lovers having had this mutual Satisfaction of an Interview, and in their Hearts inseparably linked by the Chains of Love; *Hero* and *Amorissa* retired, and *Leander* resolved to take up his Abode, seeing the Sun was near set, in that Lodge, till the next Morning, when after many Thoughts coming in his Head, he fell asleep, and

fancied he had fair *Hero* in his Arms, dancing on the Waves, and riding triumphant in *Neptune's* Chariot, as if commanding the Seas, till *Æolus*, the God of Wind, conspired, with all his Force, to raise a mighty and prodigious Storm which over-set his Shell-triumphant; whereat, for fear of losing *Hero*, who seemed to roll with him on the watry Surges, he started and awoke, much troubled at such an unusual Dream; but concluding it only the Fancy of the Night, and of his extraordinary Love, he hushed those Cares, and set his Mind intire how to dispose himself the next Day: He had forgotten to tell *Hero* how he had been set upon by *Altemansor's* Treachery, and knew he would not only oppose him in his Love, but make new Practises upon him, whereupon he found it was convenient to be wary.

Day approaching, he laid his Armour in a safe Place, and took only his Horse, and went to the Castle of *Sestus*, where the Bridge being down, and the Gates open, he entred, and took him a secret Lodging in a little House, in the remotest Place, where *Amorissa* often visited him, and divers Letters passed between him and his fair Mistress, and sometimes he was privately let into her Lodging, where, in the End, their Hearts became so firmly united, that they enjoyed all Manner of innocent Freedom; so that *Hero* at length resolved, that if she could not gain her Father's Consent, she would without further Delay marry *Leander*, and pass over into *Greece* with him, where, besides his Castle, he had large Lands and Territories; but as she thought to do it, and just going to speak of the Matter, he prevented it, by laying his Commands upon her to entertain *Altemansor's* Love, with which she had been a long Time persecuted, but ever slighted and dispised; he laid before her the Advantage of such an Alliance, the Power and Riches of that Prince, and many other Matters; but she answered him only with her Tears and Entreaties, that she might not have a Man she could not affect; this made the old Man in a great Rage, protesting not only to disown her, but disinheret her for ever if she disobeyed him. This News she sent *Leander* in a Letter, all blotted with her Tears, which made him for a Time like a Man beside himself, but resolving to hazard all for his Mistress, he concluded to appear like himself, and demand or dispute her against *Altemansor*; and so in the most rich Attire, which he sent for out of *Greece*, he appeared one of the most goodly Persons that had ever been seen in the Court; so that all admired who this Stranger should be, till *Hero's* Father one Day casting his Eyes upon him as he passed by, run to him with Tears in his Eyes, crying out, O my Deliverer, and my good Angel, have I found you again? How is it that you left us, after that you had saved our Lives from a Death that was so near us? *Leander* made modest Excuses on this Account, saying, It was no more than in Honour he ought to have done. And if the old Man was transported, now

Two unfortunate Lovers, Hero and Leander.

he was the more abundantly; so when he knew it was Prince *Leander*, he carried him to the Palace, shewed him all his Rarities, and made great feasting for several Days, desiring him to demand of him whatever was in his Power to oblige him, and he would do it for him.

Leander thought now was his Time in this Height of Caresses, said, Sir, for all the Favours you have done me, and for the Offers you have made me, I return you my most humble Thanks; there is but one Thing in the World I desire of you, and if I could but think you would grant me that, I would freely demand it.

Demand then, (said he) boldly, and what ever it is, expect it. Then it is, (said *Leander*) with your Leave, to serve the Princess *Hero*. At which he started and look'd pale, protesting had he not already promised her to *Altamansor*, there was no Man under Heaven that he would more gladly have bestowed her on than *Leander*, whose Fame and Worth had sufficiently spread over *Asia* and *Europe*; but having sworn to give her him before the high Altar, he could not go back from his Word; or if he should, he being powerful in those Parts, would take her by Force, and lay his Inheritance waste; but *Leander* told him, That should never be while he wore a Sword; but no Entreaties could prevail with him for his Consent, and *Hero* having promised to die rather than marry any but *Leander*, though she stood stiffly upon her Obedience. *Leander* knew not what to think, but coming to his fair Mistress, very sad and pensive, told her the sorrowful Lamentation, who thereupon hung about his Neck, all overflow'd with Tears; and gave him fresh Assurance of her Love and Constancy; whereupon he told her the Treachery of *Altamansor*, and that neither himself nor she were safe on that Shore, but if she would go with him into *Greece* secretly, he would marry her Royally there; but she still insisted upon her Obedience, and told him, That Time might mollify her Father's Heart.

C H A P. VII.

How Prince *Altamansor* suborned one to poison *Leander*, and how he was prevented; and how, coming to assassinate him, he slew him and his Company, upon which he was forced to swim the Hellespont, whilst *Hero* was confined to a Tower, whether guided by a Light he often visited her by Night, and attempting to fetch her away, was drowned, whereupon she leaped into the Sea and perished.

BY this Time the News of *Leander's* coming to Court being known to *Altamansor*, the Person that had escaped having told him it was the same

same that overthrew him at Turnament, and had destroyed his Men in the Wood, he was greatly enraged; but when he had secret Notice he pretended Love to his Mistress, he imputed all the rigorous Usage of *Hero* towards him, arising from the Love she had to this new come Stranger, and therefore seeing open Force had failed, he resolved that secret Mischief should take Place, and so, with a great Sum of Gold, hired one of *Leander's* Servants (that he had newly hired) to poison him with a Glass of Wine, but as soon as he was putting it towards his Lips it flew to Pieces, whereat the Wretch seeing the Treachery discovered, fell on his Knees, begging Pardon, and disclosed the whole Matter; upon which, this and the former Treachery was published to the Disgrace and Anger of *Altemansor*. *Hero's* Father was much displeased with this, and sent sharply to reprove him, which made him rage the more, and vow Revenge; yet knowing *Leander* to be a Prince of great Courage, and having sufficiently tried his Strength, he durst not challenge him to the Combat, but thought if he could any ways destroy him, it would open his Way to *Hero's* Love; wherefore one Night he broke into his Lodging, with about twenty Men, which creating some Noise, *Leander*, who had not Time to put on his Clothes, got his Sword, and defended himself so well, that he killed the Prince, and most of his Followers; which so alarmed the Castle, that all were up in Arms, when *Leander* fearing to be opposed, or that Revenge would be taken for this proud Prince, made his Retreat good, with the Slaughter of his Enemies, and getting to a Window that jutt'd into the Sea, leaped into the Waves, and directing his Course by the Stars, swam with full Revenge to the Shore of *Grecia*, and safely arrived at *Abidas*: He thought for these many Treacheries to have brought over a powerful Army, and to have spoil'd *Persopolis*, but the Secrecy of his Love, and Desire not more to offend *Hero's* Father, who was already outrageous for the Death of *Altemansor*, he desisted that Resolve: He sent a trusty Servant to hear how Things were resented, who told him at his Return, That his fair Mistress was confined by her Father, to a little Tower that jutt'd into the Sea from the Castle, and there mourned her Captivity and his Absence.

Leander at this was altogether impatient, and resolved at any Terms to free her, whereupon he got two of his trusty Servants to row him over in a little Boat, in the Night Time, and being furnish'd with a Ladder of Rope, came safe under the Window, and calling with a low Voice, *Amorissa*, who waited on her Mistress, soon heard him, and by his Direction let down a Line of Thread, and drawing up the Ladder, fastned it to the Beam of the Window, and so *Leander* mounted by it. *Hero*, who was just awake, trembled to see him there, by Reason her Father had promised if *Leander* should be taken, to deliver him up to *Altemansor's*

for's Brother to be punish'd, who was as cruel and as blood-thirsty as the other had been; so that, after many Kisses and dear Embraces, *Leander* in a passionate Manner endeavoured to perswade *Hero* to make her Escape with him to *Abidas*; but she refused it, so that in this Manner, by Stealth as it were, he went often to visit her; she setting up in the Dark of Night, a Torch-light in the Window, to guide him to the Tower, till he heard the killing News, that her Father had design'd to marry her within three Days, though she had opposed it with her Tears and Prayers, to *Labazion* Brother to *Altemansor*, to prevent a War, and to atone for his Brother's Death. This fatal Decree possessed *Hero* with mortal Fears; so that she seeing no Hopes, but either to destroy herself, or be forced into the Arms of a Man she hated, for *Leander's* proffered Aid, in Case of War, would not be accepted by her Father; she consented the next Night he should come with a small Ship to fetch her and *Amorissa*, with all her Jewels and Treasure into *Greece*: The over-joyed *Leander* went back to prepare a Vessel, which he soon did, and caused it to be drawn in between two Rocks, lest his Purpose might be discovered to the other Shore, till it was Evening, when himself being weary, and lying down to slumber, he was suddenly awaked by a melodious Song, sung by two Mermaids, who appeared dancing on the Waves.

S O N G.

*A*WAKE, *Leander*, see the Skies
Do in the blackest Tempest rise;
In Neptune's wat'ry Kingdom see
Two Lovers shall entombed be,
Whose hard Misbap the Sea-Gods all,
With us, lament their Funeral;
The cruel Ghosts Revenge do crave,
And Fate decrees them to their Grave.

We pity Lovers that are crost,
And in their highest Hopes so lost,
When nearest to their Joys they seem,
And find all but a Golden Dream,
Then do the cross Winds bear away
Their Hopes; *Leander*, prithee stay;
But the too forward Fates drive on;
The best of Lovers are undone.

The famous and Renowned History of the, &c.

Leaving hearing this, as it were between sleep and awake, much admired at it, and found a little Trouble and Heaviness in his Mind; however, he resolv'd to keep his Word at any Rate; but about Sun-set a mighty Tempest arose, the Sea swelled in Terror, all seemed a sudden Mid-night, when as going towards the Vessel, he perceived it had broke its Cable, and had driven out at Sea with those Men that were on board he hailed them as loud as he could, but they stood away before the Wind, and could not get back; then he run about the Shore to seek another Vessel, but could find none; at that seeing Light in *Hero's* Terret, by which he knew she expected him, he resolves to run any Hazard rather than break his Word, and so stripping himself to his Shift, and hiding his Clothes in the Rock, he leaped into the swelling Main, in Hopes to overtake the Vessel, or find it at the Place appointed, and so floated on the Waves till he was Half the Sea over, when, as if the Elements had conspired his Ruin, Rain, Thunder, Lightnings and Winds, banded him from Wave to Wave, calling to Heaven, and on his fair *Hero's* Name, till clashing among the Rocks on the other Side, he lost his noble Life; and *Hero*, who had impatiently expected him all that Night, with greedy Eyes looking out, trembling in the Morning, and there, by the too cruel Fate of the rigid Destinies, she beheld his Body floating on the Waves, at this she cried out in a lamentable Sort, and calling upon his Name, leaped out at the Window, before the Nurse could prevent her, perished in the Waves, which, after they were dead, drove them on Shore, folded Arm in Arm; which sad Tragedy being known, they were pitied by all, as the great Examples of Love and Constancy, and buried in one Grave; *Hero's* Father soon after dying for Grief, in Consideration of the Cruelty he had used towards these LOVERS.

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